



# Brownfields 2008 Grant Fact Sheet

## *Michigan City, IN*

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### Community Description

The City of Michigan City was selected to receive two brownfields cleanup grants. Located in northwest Indiana, Michigan City (population 32,900) has been losing residents since 1990. Approximately 13.3 percent of its residents live below the poverty level, and 7.3 percent of the labor force is unemployed. The Norfolk & Western Railroad property and the former Erincraft Facility are in a blighted and former industrial area within the Trail Creek Waterfront Redevelopment Area. When the sites are cleaned up, the city plans to incorporate them in the area redevelopment plans that include creating public spaces, expanding a municipal marina, and developing a mixed-use commercial and entertainment center. Redevelopment of this area is expected to add greenspace, increase tourism, and create jobs for city residents. Cleanup of the sites also



### Cleanup Grants



#### \$400,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Michigan City for two brownfields cleanup grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to clean up the former Norfolk & Western Railroad property located west of E Street and south of Trail Creek. The half-acre site is an abandoned rail spur. Grant funds also will be used to clean up the former Erincraft Facility at 742 East 8th Street. The one-acre site was formerly a boat maintenance facility and manufacturing site. Both sites are contaminated with chlorinated solvents, metals, and volatile organic compounds. Grant funds will be used for cleanup planning, soil and groundwater sampling, and health and safety monitoring. Grant funds also will be used to conduct community involvement activities.

### Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team  
312-886-7576

<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields>

Grant Recipient: City of Michigan City, IN  
219-873-1419

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

is expected to enhance the quality of groundwater, which discharges into Trail Creek and eventually into Lake Michigan.